

NORTHERN FLAME

Northern Flame is a zine of postal Diplomacy, a game invented by Alan Calhoner and copyrighted by Avalon Hill in the US and Waddington-Saunders in Canada. Northern Flame is edited and written by Cal White, he of the multi-typewriters, who resides at 26 Emerson Ave., Toronto, Ontario M6H 3S8. Anything relating to NF (except \$\$) goes to me.

The publisher/treasurer of NF is Frank Easton 2-73 Keele St., Toronto, Ontario M6P 2J8. Subscription fees are 1¢ per page + postage. Send Frank a lump sum cheque/money order (at least \$5, please) and we will keep track of you sub balance.

Gamefees in NF are \$5. We run regular Diplomacy games. Variants are rare, but may be available if enough people request a particular model. The odds of this are better if you cajole Frank into it. I prefer my sex kinky and my Dip regular. Not the other way around...

GAMES CURRENTLY OPEN***

Regular Diplomacy

David Allan Coe game: Wiedemeyer, B Acheson, Grigsby, Blanpied. Four. Three needed. C'mon people. Let's get this one going!!!

Jerry Jeff Walker game: Nobody. This game is now an International game. Players are being solicited in Northern Flame AND Mark Nelson's Yorkshire Gallant. If you sign up for this game, you not only get to meet some overseas players, but you will receive BOTH zines for the duration of the game. Some deal, eh?

Nuclear Diplomacy V/Winter 2000: Also an International game being run under the same terms as above regarding NF & TYG. Currently signed up are: Anderson, Peters & Lowes, but I'd like a reconfirmation from each of you, please.

This issue: **Scruples III !!!**
Baseball Predictions
Contest '89 !!!
All the details on
CanCon II !!!

AND MORE !!!

No: 12



FLUD
FREE
ZINE
FEUD
FREE
ZONE



SCRUPLES III P12!

Bass Notes

- 1) This issue may seem a bit rushed to the regulars in the crowd. If so, it's because I am not going to have my usual full weekend after the deadline to put it together. In fact, the whole thing sans games will have to be done by Friday night and the games added later on. This is because Frank is going to have to do all the photocopying Friday afternoon due to his impending hernia operation the following Monday. I'll do the games pages at work myself and add it into the rest of the zine. I'm sure all of our readers will join me in wishing Frank a speedy recovery and will add their reassurances that almost NCBCDY ever dies from this sort of surgery...
- 2) On a happier note, and in keeping with the NF policy of putting the proper perspective on life and the hobby, let me be among the first to congratulate Anza and Randy Grigsby on the birth of their daughter Ninette, February 19/89. Mother and daughter are doing fine and papa has been strutting around putting peacocks to shame. Pity you didn't wait four days though, Anza. Ninette and I could have shared birthdays. Ah well, babies do come at their own speed, don't they?
- 3) On a sad "hobby" note, I regret to report the fold (again) of Conrad von Metzke's excellent zine Costaguana. Financial problems, time constraints, and a gradual lack of interest were the culprits this time, as they have been so often in this hobby. I do hope that nobody out there will hold this against Conrad. There's a real world out there too, y'know. The best part of the situation is that we all know that a couple of years down the road Conrad will be back, refreshed and ready to go. Well, buddy, you know where to find me.
- 4) Leave it to me to pull a stunt like I did last issue. After mentioning Randy Grigsby's CDC questionnaire AND Tom Swider's Xyns People Read Poll, I completely forgot to include them with the zine! Suffice it to say, I most profoundly apologise to both individuals, doubly so since there will not be enough room in this issue to include them either. If anyone wants a copy of either of these ballots, please write to me and I will send you a copy. Hopefully, most of you will have seen them from other sources. If not, as I said, write to me and ask!
- 5) I've had a reasonable response to my request for individual Bar Guides to your town, and I hope to print them next issue when I'm not so pressed for time or space. If I don't have your response, please send me a list of your favourite alcoholically enhanced hangouts and the reasons why you like them. Hopefully, we'll accomplish two things: 1) create a sort of Michelin guide to assist travelling Dipsters who may be a) in your area and b) thirsty; 2) Find the definitive answer to the eternal question "What makes a good bar?" (If we succeed, I may just open one up). Mark all responses "The Great Mark Nelson Pub Hunt", after our slightly sotty inspirationalist. (By the way, wait until you get a load of Douglas "Wimp" Acheson's list of places to fall down in! Hint: does the phrase "Golden Arches" mean anything to anyone?)
- 6) An aside to Brad Wilson, re: the Ken Vregget trade to the Flyers. You are getting a classic case of the hot and cold running goaltender. His saving grace is that he is a fantastic money goalie. Give him a playoff game and he's magic. In return the Maple Laffs get two first round draft choices (Phillies and Calgary's), both certain to be **late** first rounders in a remarkably poor draft year. So far, I'd say, edge to Philly in this one.

- 7) I intend to get a bit snide for a couple of items later on so let's warm up with:

The Northern Flame Retort of the Month

"He couldn't make it tonight, he's out searching for Salman Rushdie."

Heartland group leader, Jo Gravelle, to a fan requesting a song by 70s pop singer turned born again Muslim, Cat Stevens...

- 8) Can I ask somebody a question? Particularly Bruce Linsey and Ron Brown. Is there a reason I'm left off the list of "An Open Letter to the Canadian Hobby." letters that circulate every so often? As far as I know, I am in this hobby; I am Canadian; I think that NF is reasonably mainstream; so howcum I don't get these letters? At first, I figured that they were going to Frank as publisher, but he tells me that nobody ever sends him anything! Hey Frank, ol' buddy. I guess this makes us the black sheep of Canadian Dippy! And here I thought François had that sewn up!

- 9) Does Larry Peery ever read his mail? I don't get Diplomacy World, partly because of the bad things I'd heard about it as regards his ignorance (accent on the second syllable) of Canada, and partly because of a sample that Bob Hartwig lent me which I was NOT impressed with. I've read with interest and amusement his muddling up of Canadian affairs, and I'd assumed that he had been corrected by now (I ~~mean~~, I've been reading this for two years now!). But now, or rather last week I get a promo kit in the mail (at least somebody sends me open letters...) in which he announces that BOB Acheson has just been elected Co-ordinator of the CDO. I wonder if DOUG Acheson was as surprised by this as I was? Sigh. Anyway, for Larry's benefit, here's the correct list of the CDO Executive Committee:
Co-ordinator Doug Acheson 95 Dundonald St, Barrie, Ont L4M 3T4
Committeemen Randy Grigsby 93 St Vincent St, RR#3, Barrie, Ont L4M 4S5
Cal White 26 Emerson Av, Toronto, Ontario M6H 3S8
Now, I realize that the CDO is hardly an important factor in your life (nor, necessarily, should it be), but if you're gonna print it, get it right.

- 10) While I'm at it, I'm also curious why CanCon wasn't mentioned in your list of Cons for the year? Did (as I suspect) you just not have the info? If so please see the CDO news later this issue. Some publicity in DW would be appreciated.

- 11) Also in the package that Larry sent me was the announcement that three Hobby Awards are again open for nomination. To quote from the flyer:

"[The] Don Miller Memorial Award for hobby service during the year 1988. This is the hobby's most prestigious award and past recipients have included some of the hobby's most distinguished members. Anyone who has made a major contribution to the improvement of the hobby in the past year is eligible."

"[The] Rod Walker Award for literary excellence is given to an individual or individuals who have written about the game or hobby with exceptional achievement in the past year. A copy of the item for which the individual is being nominated should be included with the nomination."

"[The] John Konig Memorial Award for outstanding play of Diplomacy in any form (e.g. PBM, PBEM, Computer, Tournament/Convention, etc) during 1988. The reason for the nomination should be included with it."

"Nominations will be screened by a committee (for which members are needed). Each nominee will be listed on the official ballot which will be distributed this Spring in DW and elsewhere. Recipients will be announced at DIPCON XXII and presented with a personal plaque, and their name(s) engraved on the various perpetual plaques. Donations to cover expenses are requested and checks [sic] should be enclosed with your nomination. Make checks payable to Fred Davis Jr."

"Nominations should be sent to Larry Peery [Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102 USA] by APRIL 1st. Nominations for the Walker Award may also be sent to Alan Stewart, #702, 25 St Mary St, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4Y 1R2. Committee volunteers should contact me directly."

"Your participation and cooperation is requested."

12) And yet more from Larry Peery: a 29 page DipCon XXII Press Kit! I've got to hand it to Larry, nobody can say he doesn't put any effort into the hobby! DipCon XXII is being held in San Diego on the weekend of July 28, 29 & 30, although I don't see a site mentioned anywhere. Games offered on the weekend include Kremlin as well as various types of Diplomacy. There will be Gunboat, Variant, Computer and Novice games, as well as Tournament and Recreational (?) Dip. Anybody interested should contact Larry Peery PO Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102 USA.

I'm definitely not certain, but there's an outside chance that I may actually get down to this Con. I'm not certain enough to pre-register, but Lorie and I are definitely going down to visit the Grand Canyon sometime in July (stopping in to see Bob Hartwig on the way!), and if time and \$\$ permit, we just might drive the extra bit. I've already met Rod Walker and Conrad von Metzke (who won't be there, unfortunately), but maybe I could explain to Larry Peery that there is a Canajun hobby, eh?

ITHINKJACQUESBELANGERCOMMENTEDONLINEAR-SEPARATORSINPASSCHENDAELEIWONDERIFHE
ORFRANCOISKNOWTHATTHECONCEPTWASSTARTEDBYJOHNLEEDERINRUNESTONEINTHEEARLY70S?

The Notebook will not be appearing this issue because of space considerations (as well as the fact that I didn't write anything, but Melinda (Miss Mellie) Holley was kind enough to send in a few of her own:

It pays to be obvious; especially if you have a reputation for subtlety.
The best I can hope for is not to kill anybody today.
Beauty remains when the passionate act is over.
When in doubt, change the subject!
Anything's possible, but nothing's easy.
Whatever hits the fan will not be distributed evenly.
Always know where the exits and bathrooms are. The rest is unimportant.

((Miss Mellie, Lazarus woulda been proud!))

can★con

DIPLOMACY

NORTHERN FLAME #12

March 12, 1989

PAGE 5

"An IDTR Sanctioned
Tournament"

Toronto

UPDATE: March

CAN-CON '89 PREREGISTRATION FORM

U of T Scarborough Campus
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
August 4-6, 1989

Here it is! After much negotiations and table pounding, your executive of the CDO (specifically me) has secured 5 townhouses accommodating 30 people and splendid facilities for your gaming pleasure at the just discovered University of Toronto Scarberia Campus. Here they have air-conditioning in the conference room being booked plus air-conditioned lounge and negotiation areas. To keep with the policy of seeking a relaxing, rustic area for this vacation, we have again found a ravine setting with tennis courts, squash courts, saunas and ready access to Toronto Transit to get to that Jays/Yankee game on Saturday.

Now, I've got to get some feed back from you pretty quickly as the campus residence officer wants some definitive numbers to charge me by. Right Penny? Anyways, on with this form.

=====

PREREGISTER ME:

Name:

Address:

City, Province/State:

Postal Code/Zip, (Country):

Please pre-register () person(s) for CAN-CON '89 at \$20.00/person.

Save one of those rooms for me for Friday & Saturday nights at . . .
. . . \$27.00/night/person

Now for some questions.

I am coming with my spouse ()

I am bringing our kids ()

I/we would like to have breakfast ()

lunch ()

dinner ()

(I would seriously recommend taking advantage of the breakfast at \$3.75+PST)

I/we would like to go to the Jays/Yankee game ()

I would take advantage of a bridge tournament ()

I/we would like to go out for dinner Saturday night ()

NAMES OF THOSE ATTENDING: _____, _____.

IMPORTANT Please make cheques out to Douglas Acheson and mail to the address at bottom of this sheet.

Some further thoughts. There will be four scheduled gaming sessions: Fri. afternoon, Sat. morning & evening/afternoon and Sun. morning. Each session will cost \$8/per for those who don't pre-register.

95 DUNDONALD ST. BARRIE, ONT. L4M 3T4

THE MAILMAN COMETH (ALL OVER DR RUTH!)

From Mark Nelson (Oxley Hall, Weetwood Lane, Leeds LS16 8HL England)

"Thanks for the letter/tape- I've enjoyed both!!" "..."

"I have only listened to the tape once so far, and I really enjoyed it! The more bluesy numbers were great and I liked most of the C&W numbers. Over the Easter vacation, I will be preparing a detailed review for The Yorkshire Callant. Please send me any tapes you do, perhaps I'll become a Heartland groupie!"

((Hmm, what did you say your measurements were...?))

"The UK International Subscription Exchange end is Doug Rowling (of Prisoners of War fame) for US/Canuck."

"I notice that you've dropped the Nuclear Diplomacy list, but... how about you reopen the list and I open the list in TYG? If I can get a couple of Brits to play then we can have an International game running to 6 week deadlines. Although it won't be essential for my subs to sub to Flame to play in the game, nor for Flame subs to sub to TYG to play, I think the likely outcome is that they probably would! So we get a game running and a few more international contacts are made."

((Sounds okay to me. I know that Rob Lowes, Dave Anderson and Marc Peters were interested. Potter and Russell never subbed, and you were the 6th. If Rob, Marc and Dave would re-confirm, and you let me know your intentions, we can open it to 3 Brits. I'd be willing to send NF to anybody from your side of the pond who was interested. In fact, why don't we go one further and open up an international game of RegDip, whereby players only need sub to either NF or TYG to receive both. I'll volunteer the as yet vacant Jerry Jeff Walker game for this status. Anybody out there interested? Here's a great chance to make overseas friends (or enemies!) and also receive Mark's excellent zine The Yorkshire Gallant gratis for the duration of the game.))

"The question on discrimination is interesting, although perhaps we should be debating the first topic (nationality) rather than sexuality. I'm not suggesting discrimination on racial grounds- I'm against that- but the question of immigration and integration is interesting. Consider the recent fuss over "The Satanic Verses". If fundamentalism is so great, why don't the Muslims go back to Iran?"

((Awfully damned racist of you, ol' chap! That's like saying, "If the blacks don't like it over here, why don't they go back to Africa?" Well, the reasons are as varied as the question is foolish! Some are here because of political persecution, not religious reasons; some are here for financial reasons, which may be why they don't/can't return; some may just like it better here (that isn't a crime, you know); and after all, some Muslims were BORN here and, while wanting to keep their religion, see no need to move to a foreign country. The way I see the whole Rushdie affair, the question is not one of "freedom of speech" or "artistic expression", or even the perpetuation of "hate literature" (as it has been called over here), but rather the shocking lack of "faith" in the Muslim religion shown by their leading Churchmen, including the Ayatollah himself! Is the Muslim religion on such shaky ground that the leaders need fear for it's survival because of a mere book?!? Otherwise, what the hell is all the noise about! Seems to me, that if I had to pick a religion, I'd want to pick one that could stand up to a little persecution or even ridicule without collapsing!))

"I feel your second question is a rehash of something we've discussed previously."

"I reject John's claim that I am a right-winger; I consider myself to be nothing of the kind. ((Personally, I'm a first baseman myself...)) I resent your implication that I consider Canada and Australia to be second class countries, sir! Indeed, nothing could be further from the truth. As member states of our glorious Commonwealth, and before that the Empire, it is only natural that the great English civilisation should have rubbed off on you. You should consider yourself lucky that generations of English gentlemen helped form your respective countries into the civilized areas they are now, surrounded (as they are) by so many less fortunate countries which are simply quite barbaric!

((Generations of English gentlemen??? I thought that that nonsense ended with the first sell-out ~~soccer~~ football game in England. Civilised, hah!))

"BNC-UK games were reported in Everything up to 1978, since then, they haven't been. Post 1978 games have been reported in The New Statesman until 1980 and since then in The Finishing Touch (issues c. 33-55). The only person with an up-to-date rating system is Richard Sharp, although I am currently working on a Calhamer Point Count System. UK games use BA-BZ, DA-DZ, EA-EZ, GA-GZ, & JA-JZ. I have on disk all UK games to 1974, but Randolph should already have these. It may be possible to get a complete print-out of all UK finishes from Richard Sharp, but the postage would be rather expensive. We're talking 2000 games! Rather hard for me to comment as I don't have NF #10, which contains, I suspect, the basis for discussion on UK games."

((I'll be enclosing an extra copy of #10 for you. Randolph Smyth replies to your question on game winners in #9.))

"Damn, I quite liked ELP ((Emerson, Lake & Palmer))-- makes a change for the band to consist of musicians with a wide knowledge of music. Hey, I'm going to send you a pile of \$\$ for tapes. I've only got one Lynyrd Skynyrd LP on tape and it's great stuff! I've been looking for years to find more, but I've never seen any. I heard Free Bird, a classic track, although it's not on my tape."

"I can see that we could have a great time on a tape zine playing music!"

((Definitely. But I'd love to include Brad Wilson on something like that. Of all the North Am publishers, Brad has to have the most eclectic tastes of anyone I know. Actually, ~~scrap~~ the pubber part. He has the most eclectic tastes of anyone I know! And as far as \$\$ for tapes, why don't we just get a couple of good 90 minutes tapes and just keep remailing them. That'd be easier and cheaper, too. Anybody else out there interested in a tape exchange? This has the making of a whole new hobby!))

"Surely, oh for the good ol' days when women didn't drive."

((Amen, fellow chauvinist!))

From Paul Kenny (75A Maple Ave, Collingswood, NJ 08108) *Hello. Just wanted to respond to Doug Rowling's statement/question about RF shielding. I am no expert on this myself, but from what I understand, the problems are not really the RF signal, but other signals interfering with it."

"Televisions are the most complicated piece of electronic equipment that most people will ever come in contact with. The problem is that there is more

than one type of signal rolling around and, while these signals are all different enough not to interfere with each other, they will sometimes superimpose on themselves once they reach their destination and do what they have to do."

"The worst violator of noise is just plain electromagnetic radiation. Of the biggest sources, one is from a part called the high voltage power supply, which has a large transformer and powers the CRT ((?)). The CRT is the biggest source of EMF."

"As far as the signal-in goes, the problem is most likely going to be right at the antenna itself. Other signals are being propagated, and there is no way for the antenna to stop them. That is the job of the tuner. It has filters built in to only let in the signal you select. The tuner then adds another frequency to help it go through the TV."

"The reason RF cables are shielded is to try and prevent the cable from acting like an antenna. I believe the reason the TV itself is shielded is to prevent it's EMF from interfering with outside devices, like AM radios, computers, and all. I don't know of any plastics that can work as a shield, let alone transparent ones. That doesn't mean they don't exist, just that I haven't heard of them. Hey, this is worse with computers when line noise can change your data and, instead of putting info from your disk into your computer, you are putting in garbage. The rule here, as in RF cables - MAKE THE CABLE AS SHORT AS POSSIBLE."

"Trying to enclose a device to shield the outside from EMF has it's problems, one was mentioned, that of venting. The device will need air to keep cool, but the vent holes, even wire mesh, are large enough for wave lengths of very short distances, to "float" through."

"Well, I hope that didn't add to the confusion too much. Keep up the good work!"

((Thanks. And believe me, Paul, you didn't add to MY confusion. That simply wasn't possible! You know, after all that's been said, I'm still not 100% sure, if those detector vans actually CAN detect operating TV's from out in the street or not! Which probably means, I suppose, that I'm either not smart enough, or educated enough, to ever know. Sigh. If I ever move to the UK, I'm just going to buy the damn license!)) x

From Doug Acheson (95 Dundonald St, Barrie, Ontario L4M 4S4) ((And yes, this is a new typewriter!)) Dear (sweet) Cal: I've decided that airing our dirty laundry in your zine was not good for my upright and exemplary character, so, whenceforth, I'll only air it in my own zine- that way your readers will have to sub to it to get the latest in ketchup and lipstick stain gossip.

What's going on here? I've lost complete control of the CDO to two yahoos who only got where they are with my help. Don't forget who's pulling the strings in this production. I don't remember you asking me to sign an official release allowing you to publish CDO News? And where does Grigsby get off creating and initiating a Canadian Census and questionnaire? Darn good thing I'm so busy writing this drivel that I'm going to let you two carry on, but don't forget who's to get ALL the credit. My mother - and you thought I was going to say ME now, didn't you ((Yup)) Without her I wouldn't be here now and ain't I too much? ((Yup))

((More of this on the next page: don't say I didn't warn you...))

Now on to music?! Patsy Cline!? Is she still alive ((No)) Meatloaf!? Dwight Yoakum!? Who the heck are the people that read NF? Meatloaf is standard Friday night dinner fare. Dwight is a place up in God's country between Dorset and Huntsville on the Lake of Bays and I do believe that the locals are called yokals. Now if you've got to listen to something, the hum of wheels on the road and the wind through the pines is just fine music. Sure beats the sound of kids fightin' over the noise of some radio/CD/tape player. The sound of an old cash register is music to my ears as well. Who the heck is Lynyrd Skynyrd?

((You ol' deadhead, you've gotten old before your time - or maybe not - how old are you anyways? In my band we have a saying: if it's too God damn loud, you're too God damn old! Who is Lynyrd Skynyrd? Ghad man, where is thy youth. Tom Swider may call me a music snob for this, but Skynyrd is only the best Southern rock band ever! That's it! Trish, send the kids down stairs to build a fire. I'm bringing my tape player and tapes up next time I come. We're gonna shake the walls tonight!))

16 NORTH/THE TORONTO STAR, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1989

ENTERTAINMENT

Heartland at Lancelot's Castle

By Phil Johnson

Jo Gravelle started composing songs and singing them with neighborhood bands when he was 14. After he turned pro, he sang them in coffee houses in Aurora and Metro.

Today, at 32, the singer-composer-guitarist has penned more than 300 honky-tonk and country rock tunes. One of them, *Meanwhile*, a fast-paced, country-rock dance number, could wind up a hit for the Bradford-area musician. It's a featured song on the album Gravelle and his band, Heartland, are putting together in a studio and hoping to release in April.

Friday and Saturday, they're appearing at Lancelot's Castle (formerly The Sportway), on Highway 48, just south of Sutton.

The group started out as Tomahawk Rock in 1982, but renamed itself Heartland four years ago. Jeff Barnes plays fiddle and guitar; Mike Parker, lead guitar; George Morellato, drums; and Cal White bass.

HEARTLAND SCHEDULE

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| March 12 | We're taping our first album in Newmarket, Ontario. |
| Mar 15-18 | JJ's, Lakeshore & 4th St, New Toronto |
| Mar 23-25 | The Black Bull, Queen & University, Toronto |
| Mar 30-Apr 2 | Wee Dee's, Hwy 10 & Voddan St Brampton, Ontario |
| April 13 | Sneaky Dee's, Bloor & Bathurst St's, Toronto. Cover charge. |
| April 14 | Lancelot's Castle, Hwy 48, 3 miles south of Sutton. |
| April 15 | Our fearless leader (Jo Gravelle) is getting married (the fool) and the reception is at Lancelot's Castle. Actually, Trish and Jo have been married for a year but they liked the ceremony so much, they're doing it again! |
| Apr 20-22 | PJ's Roadhouse, Memorial Av Hwy 12, Orillia, Ontario. See you there again, Doug? |

Prediction:

AL MVP- Fred McGriff, Toronto

NL MVP- John Shelby, LA

NORTHERN FLAME #12, March 12, 1989 PAGE 10

ANNOUNCING THE SECOND ANNUAL NORTHERN FLAME BASEBALL PREDICTIONS CONTEST!!!

Yes, it's that time of year again, when a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of squeeze plays, hit & runs, booming homers and stabbed line drives! Baseball is (almost) back in town! And once again, the staff at Northern Flame are pleased to, once again, offer our readers a chance to show off their baseball knowledge and acumen by predicting the exact finish of the four Major League divisions.

The contest works like this: you send me your predictions as to the finish of each team in both the American and National leagues. For each team that finishes exactly where you said it would, you receive ONE point. Simply enough, the winner is the person with the most points!

For example, here's a sample finish for the American League West: 1st- Oakland; 2nd-Minnesota; 3rd-Texas; 4th-Chisox; 5th-Seattle; 6th-California; 7th-Kansas City. Now if you had predicted Oakland, Texas, Minnesota, California, Seattle, Kansas City & Chisox, you would receive TWO points (for Oakland and Seattle). Simple, eh?

Now get out those pens and put on your baseball thinking caps and send me your predictions. The winner will receive a copy of Borderless Country, the soon-to-be-released Heartland album as well as a years subscription to Northern Flame. (Traders may substitute a free gamefee, if desired).

And now, here are MY fearless predictions for 1989! Take these seriously now- last year only Rob Lowes prevented me from being hailed as THE TRUE BASEBALL GENIUS that I am. Read 'em and weep, mortals...

AL EAST	AL WEST	NL EAST	NL WEST
1- Toronto	1- Oakland	1- New York	1- San Francisco
2- Milwaukee	2- Minnesota	2- Pittsburgh	2- San Diego
3- Boston	3- Texas	3- St Louis	3- Cincinnati
4- New York	4- Kansas City	4- Montreal	4- Los Angeles
5- Cleveland	5- Seattle	5- Chicago	5- Houston
6- Detroit	6- Chicago	6- Philadelphia	6- Atlanta
7- Baltimore	7- California		

This will finally be the year that Toronto gets their act together and wins it all. The only competition will be from the Brewers, although Boston & New York will start fast and fade. For once Detroit will be nowhere to be seen. Cleveland will go as far as their bats can take them and Baltimore will be better then anybody expects (which isn't saying much).

In the AL West, Oakland is too strong to finish anywhere but first, although the playoff let down will make it close for Minnesota. Watch Texas!

As with Oakland, the Mets are too strong to blow the NL East, but Pittsburgh has the talent to make it close. Also, St Louis could bear watching because of their habit of being good every second year.

NL West is a toss up, but this is Frisco's year. May the Dodgers rot in hell

"I'm an adult now."

Moe Berg

A short (?) year ago, this column (and Northern Flame in general) was the scene of much wringing of hands and teeth gnashing about the trauma of turning thirty. Well, Cal's already 31 and I follow next month, and we haven't said two words to each other about it; seems once you're over the threshold, the water ain't so bad after all! I do admit to a general sense of seriousness seeping into my consciousness over the last year, and detect something similar in Cal when we get together. Adulthood doesn't jump up and hit you in the face so much as creep up and piss on your pant leg when you aren't looking. In the mental inventory I recently conducted (see last ish), I devised a check list for myself as a litmus test of impending adulthood. I must admit to checking "yes" to all of these, but being a personal idea of adulthood, anywhere from some, to all of them might not apply to you, gentle reader. So, with that in mind, here is my version of "The 10 Warning Signs of Adulthood."

- 1) when you go out for a night on the town, your consuming passion is NOT to: a) party until unconscious; b) party till you puke; c) wake up with someone you don't remember meeting; d) all of the above.
- 2) when looking for a new place to live, you rate "how close is the nearest beer store?" lower on the desirability scale than "how close is the nearest laundromat?"
- 3) you stop buying records by new bands/artists and tell everyone who asks you about it how shitty all those new acts are and how music isn't as good/vital/interesting/etc. as when you were younger.
- 4) you are still willing to put up with dumb, cute, young things to get into their pants, but at least have the decency to feel silly about it.
- 5) you accept baseball as the perfect simile for life on this planet, with all of it's grace, intelligence and power - and realize that football is about armoured airheads on steroids trying to rip each others limbs off.
- 6) you no longer wait until you have absolutely no clean clothes left until you do laundry.
- 7) you stop (or at least cut down) doing things that are unhealthy/dangerous because you realize, at last, that you are not invulnerable.
- 8) you prefer an evening of good food, drink and conversation to an evening of hunting around for a chance to get laid (though an evening of good food, drink, conversation AND getting laid is unbeatable, of course).
- 9) you are no longer bothered when younger people call you "sir".
- 10) you can no longer party on a week-night until 2:00 or 3:00 AM and then get up for work at 7:00 AM without feeling like a bag of shit all day.

((The opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the editorial staff of NF who, while admitting to a 9 out of 10 score on the above, reject point #6 with all youthful exuberance! Mike Agnew can be reached c/o The Bunker 702 Ossington Av, Toronto, Ontario M6G 3T7. No calls after 8:30 PM, please. Show some respect...))

And now, what you've all been waiting for!

SCRUPLES III

For those of you who haven't been with NF for very long, one of the most popular features I've run so far has been ~~ex~~erpts from "A Question of Scruples", a game published by Hugh Game Enterprises, Box 3184, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4E7. "Scruples is a game based on moral dilemmas, the kind that everybody has, but rarely bring up in casual conversation." As a party game/mixer, it's unbeatable.

The rules for NF's Scruples quiz are easy. No prizes, no incentives, just what the real game gives you: a chance to air your views and also read those of other people whom you may only know by name. Here are a few more Questions for Scruples III. Please send me your response, yes/no, as well as a few words explaining your views. Without further doodoo, herewe go:

- 1) As a lawyer, do you defend someone whom you know is guilty of a vicious rape?
- 2) You don't have seatbelts for all the toddlers you are driving to a puppet show. Do you leave your own children without belts?
- 3) You are shaken up in an auto accident. A lawyer says he can get a large settlement if you exaggerate the extent of your injuries. Do you co-operate?
- 4) You see a man preparing to jump to his death in front of a subway train. Do you try to stop him?
- 5) Your fiancé/e discovers that s/he has a terminal illness that can drag on indefinitely. Do you break the engagement?
- 6) The country has been attacked by an aggressive foreign power. Do you volunteer to fight?
- 7) A friend has a severe case of bad breath. Do you mention it?

.....
 ++++++

Miss Mellie's Puzzle Page FEATURING SuperQuiz

Science

- 1- What is a googolplex?
- 2- Complete this series: point, line, square, cube, _____
- 3- Who wrote the Principia?
- 4- What was the fifth "mystic" Pythagorean solid?
- 5- True or False: Gamma rays are shorter than X-Rays.
- 6- Bonus question: Blue Event Horizon and Schwarzschild radius are terms relating to what phenomenon?

Answers to last issue's quiz

- 1- The Canadian actor who was the voice of the HAL 9000 computer in the movie "2001: A Space Odyssey" was Douglas Rain.
- 2- The O'Hara Plantation in "Gone With the Wind" was called Tara.
- 3- My Mother the Car was a 1928 Ford.
- 4- The Star Trek episode "The City on the Edge of Forever" was written by Harlan Ellison, a noted sf writer.
- 5- Clark Gable, Marilyn Monroe and Montgomery Clift all appeared in "The Misfits" which (for a bonus point) was written by Monroe's at-the-time hubby, ARTHUR MILLER. STANDINGS, AS WELL AS TYPEWRITER #3, NEXT PAGE. ARRH!

Four responses to Superquiz, part 5: Melinda Holley, Mario Cauz, Mark Nelson and Doug Acheson. Both Melinda and Mario got all five correct and both got the bonus point. Mark got #4 correct (the only one he answered). And we won't discuss Doug's answers... Mark Weidmark also submitted answers and scored about as well as Doug...

Standings to date: Mario Cauz-14, Melinda Holley-10, Frank Cauz-7, Claude Gautron-4, Mike Agnew-2, Mark Nelson-1, Bob and Doug ~~McKee~~ Acheson-0, Mark Weidmark-0.

Deadline for part 6 (last chance!) is APRIL 21, 1989

The Waylon Jennings game 1988B NEW GERMAN PLAYER CARRIES ON TRADITION
 Fall 1903 OF TENACITY! AUSTRIA SWELLING LIKE
 TUMOUR! IS ANYBODY NOTICING?

Austria (Doug Acheson) a VIE h; a tri-TYO; a gal-SIL; a RUM s f gre-bulec
 a SER s f gre-bulec; f gre-BULEC.
 England (Melinda Holley) a FIN s f stpnc; f NTH s f nrg-edi; f STPNC h;
 f nwy-SWE; f nrg-EDI.
 France (Rob Lowes) a pic-BEL; a BUR s a tyo-mun; a RUH s a tyo-mun;
 a tyo-mun/d-retreat to boh, pie, otb/; f ENG s a pic-bel.
 Germany (David Anderson) a KIE s a mun; a HOL-ruh; a bel-bur/d,a/;
 f DEN-nth; a MUN s a hol-ruh; f EDI h. ((Had retreated a tyo-mun
 f f nth-edi)); a bavaria-switzerland.
 Italy (Randolph Smyth) a syr-SMY; a VEN s Austrian a tri-tyo; f AEG-son;
 f EAS s a syr-smy.
 Russia (Claude Gautron) a MOS-war; a LVN-war; a SEV salutes the departure
 of the Turkish army for that great harem in the sky! (holds).
 Turkey (Frank Easton) a sev retreats OTB. a CON s f bulec; f bulec s
 Russian a sev-rum/nso, d, retreat to bla, otb/

Supply Centre Chart after '03

A: home, gre, rum, ser, BUL.	(7) +1
E: lon, lpl, nwy, stp, edz , SWE.	(5) Even
F: home, spa, por, BEL.	(6) +1/+2 DOR
G: home, hol, den, EDI, del , 1A.	(6) +1
I: home, tun, SMY.	(5) +1
R: mos, war, SEV, del .	(3) Even
T: con, ank, del , del , del . 1 short, 1A, 1 otb.	(2) Even or +1, DOR
	(34)

DEADLINE FOR WINTER 1903/SPRING 1904 IS APRIL 21/89. I'll probably be quite lenient as regards a separate Winter season...

Germany to Emerson Avenue: Give Austria a chance to attack Switzerland, too. I did, because I am not getting any CARE packages from France.

Emerson Avenue: If he can figure a way, he's welcome to attack the Swiss. I'm just not going to make it easy for him and tell him how!

Austria to Emerson Avenue: You mean to tell me that Switzerland is undefended!

Ven-Tri (BP): One of us is going to make a move.

Lon-Rom (BP): What will it be, a CanCon voyeur or let's get physical and waltz?

Austria to France: Let the Sultan hang and as for you, "This particular one!"

Austria to GM: This has been one of the toughest Austria's that I've ever played.

France to Germany: Your predecessor got you embroiled in a little tiff with our fair forces. I hope you don't take it personally.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 104

WINTER 1902 only, because of 3 requests for a separation!

Would David Anderson

pla standby for GER?

PO Box 6092, Pontiac,

MI 48059.

Addresses enclosed.

Dave.

nk. ((Tricky))

Smy-Mun: No wonder the Flyers are in bad shape - you're rooting for them!
Give the boys a break and root for the Caps!

.....

Austria (and Wiedemeyer) f alb-GRE; a TRI h; a SER s Russian f sev-rum.

France (Brad Wilson?) Anonymous neutrals: f mid-POR; a PIC-bel; a SPA h.

a BUR drinks champagne.

Russia (British Acheson) f sev-RUM; f bot-SWE; a mos-SEV; a UKR s f sev-rum.

January 1960

A: home, STR, GRE.

(5) Build 2.

Standbys:

(4) Build 1.

For England- Mark Nelson

(5) Build 2.

Oxley Hall, Weetwood Lane,

(5) Build 2.

Leeds, West Riding, LS16 8HL

(4) Build 1.

England.

(6) Build 2.

For France- Melinda Holley
R. 0707 H. 11111111111111111111

(4) Build 1.

Box 2793, Huntington, WV 25727
Other addresses in #10

Other addresses in #10.
there?

Constellation to all: hello: Anybody out there?
Borne to all: Ever sat in high idle?

Thompson Avenue: who is the "all" guy

McKinnon Avenue: who is the mail guy. I hope he's paying for this zine!

I hate to end an issue on a sour note, but here goes: It's now Saturday evening, the 11th. This morning when I went out to my truck to go and visit my sister in Bramalea, I found that it had been broken into and I had lost all three of my bass guitars and an amplifier. I'm quite sure that the guys who did it, did it for the same reason I had my apartment broken into last August. To get \$\$\$ to buy drugs. I have been convinced for some time now that our society is sick and heading for collapse. I hate to sound like a bleeding heart, but I see the same signs in North American society today that presaged the fall of at least a couple of other societies in history. I sense a serious article to come for a